COHEN, WILLIAM A

May 1919

(005)

885 Dundas Street West,

TORONTO, May 5th, 1919.

Sir Robert Falconer,

University Buildings,

T o r o n t o.

Dear Sir:-

Following my conversation with you some days ago I am sending you herewith copies of such correspondence as I have preserved which explain the situation as well as I can explain it.

I have made every effort to personally appear before the Matriculation Board but without success.

Any assistance which you can render me would be very much appreciated.

I should like to be able to try my University examinations this year in due course and if there is any doubt about my ability to pass the matriculation examinations I would try them over again. I certainly would very much regret being obliged to lose my year after having worked so hard.

Yours very truly,

William A. Cohen

Enclosures.

Perhaps it would be well to state here that I tried my matriculation from the third form being unable to attend the fourth and this was another disadvantage for me which shows how hard I worked in order to reach college.

196

Copy.

Toronto, January 17th, 1919.

Dear Sir:

In august last you submitted a certificate of employment signed by James Elder to the effect the your employment under him made it impossible to attend the regular day session of a secondary school. The Principal of the Harbord Collegiate Institute has recently submitted a statement certifying that you were in attendance between September 1917 and May last for over one hundred and thirty days. In view of the discrepancy between the two statements you are requested to submit an explanation.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

Wm. A. Cohen, Esq.,
885 Dundas Street,
Toronto, Ont.

University Matriculation Board.

Toronto, Feb. 1st. 1919.

Dear Sir:

I send you herewith a copy of my letter of January 17th, to which no reply has been received. Kindly let me have an answer without delay.

Yours truly,

R.W. Anglin,

Secretary.

Wm. A. Cohen, Esq.,
885 Dundas Street,
Toronto, Ontario.

194

University Matriculation Board.

Feb, 19th, 1919.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 6th inst. has been carefully considered by the Chairman of the Executive of the University Matriculation Board. He is of the opinion, that your case is one of false representation intentionally made, for the purpose of sucuring benefits for yourself. The certificate showing the marks obtained by you at the June wxamination of 1918, has an endorsement on it to the effect that, under the Mercantile provisions you are entitled to credit for the four papers on which you wrote in June. The evidence submitted indicates without any doubt, that you were not entitled to qualify as a Mercantile candidate at the examinations last year. You are therefore requested to return that certificate in order that you may receive in exchange, one without the endorse ment on the reverse side. In accordance with the further instructions of the Chairman. I am advising the Registrar of the Unversity of the facts of your case.

Yours truly,

R. W. Anglin,

Secretary.

William A. Cohen, Esq.,

885 Dundas Street West,

Toronto, Ontario.

R. W. Anglin, Secretary,
Unversity Matriculation Board,
Parliament Bldg,,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:

Aftrr receiving your letter of February 19th I tried to get in touch with you and I believe I spoke to the Assistant Registrar and endeavored to arrange through him an appointment so that I might be able to personally explain my case and present it to the Board as I feel sure that if I had an opportunity to do so my explanations would be accepted.

For a period of about a year and a half on account of the work which I was doing it was impossible dor me to spend the necessary time upon my studies and my interpretation of the regulations was that this would entitle me to qualify as a Mercantile Candidate at the examinations last year.

If it has been explained to me and perhaps of I has carefully studied the regulations I might have known that strictly speaking the regulation did not cover such a case but I feel confident that my case certainly comes within the spirit of the regulations and if I had thought otherwise I would have tried eight subjects at once and tried the other four later instead of trying four first and the other eight.altogehter later.

The very fact that I tried the entire twelve subjects in the one year shows that I enjoyed no material advantage over any other student and it does not seem fair to me that I should be penalized for my diligence. My Principal Col. Hagarty when he signed my certificate knew very well that I was claiming the benefit of the mercantile regulations and I could not have misled him when I was actually attending his school. Only now after I take lectures for about five months is the point first raised.

I think I should be givin the opportunity to be heard personally and I respectfully request that I be informed when the Board site so that I may present my case to them.

I had absolutely no intention to make any false representation for the purpose of securing benefits for myself and apart from my word in support of that statement you can have no better evidence than thefact that I secured no particular benefits. I tried all the examinations in one year and no student is obliged to work any harder.

As the matter now stands I do not know just what my position is

and unless I have an opportunity of doing something I may be obliged to waste a whole term which would be a calamity for me.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am,

Yours very truly,

Wm. A. Cohen,

192

University of Toronto.

February 27th,1919.

Wm. A. Cohen Esq.,
885 Dundas Street West,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I have a letter from the Matriculation Board to the effect that you hold documents to which you are not entitled. You will be good to surrender the papers you hold to the Matriculation Board and the question of whether you will be allowed to remain any longer in the University will be determined just as speedily as possible.

Yours very truly,

James Brebner,

Registrar

JB/NM

University Matriculation Board.

Toronto, March 4th, 1919.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 26th ultimo. With regard to your statement that Principal Hagarty was aware of your intention to qualify for Matriculation under the mercantile procisions I may state that I have consulted him and he Disclaims any knowledge of such intention on your part. The regulations are very clear and your case does notcome under them. Your certificate of Partial Matriculation obtained in September last indicates that you are required to pass on four papers at one examination with a standard of 40% on each paper and an average of 60%.

As to your appeal for permission to appear before the Board the evidence on file does not show that ther is any justification for such appeal. When the Board meets, probably in April, the whole case will be submitted and if it.sees the necessity of your presence you will be advised.

Your are again requested to return your certificate obtained at the June examination in order that it may be exchanged for one without an endorsement.

Yours truly,

R. W. Anglin.
Secretary.

Wm. A. Cohen,
885 Dundas St., West,
Toronto, Ont.

Note:- I do not believe I said Col. Hagarty was aware of my intentions to qualify under the Mercantile Regulations but rather that he was aware of the fact that I had already taken them, and yet said nothing

190

May 6th, 1919

Mr. H. A. Cohen,

885 Dundas Street, West,

Toronto.

Dear Sir:

I have gone through your correspondence and I am sorry to find a discrepancy between the statement in your letter to Mr. Anglin with regard to Principal Sangster and the note that you wrote in ink at the bottom of your letter of March 6th.

I am afraid that it would be impossible for Mr. Anglin to re-consider your case as the Matriculation Board has decided upon it, so that it will be necessary for you to pass upon the remainder of your matriculation examination at some future time.

With regard to the possibility of your being allowed to take an examination either now or later on the work that was done in the first year of the faculty of medicine I cannot say definitely. This will be decided by the faculty of Medicine, and I have asked them to consider the case and to let us know their opinion.

Yours sincerely,

President.